Waiting . . . . . Watching . . . . . .

U. S. Rep. Robert Giaimo wipes sweat from his brow.

His wife, Marion, and daughter, Barbara Lee, watch returns.

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No Strangers To Victory, City Democrats Took I

New Haven has been the scene of many victories in the past decade and Tuesday night, at 112 Crown St., still another banner night was recorded—but in a relatively subdued fashion.

The score was overwhelming: a 15,000 plurality for Gov. Dempsey; 14,000 for U. S. Rep. Robert N. Giaimo; a sweep of two State Senate seats and 10 state representative spots; a big hand in pushing in Probate Judge Charles Henchel and Sheriff J. Edward Slavin — nothing was left out, lost or omitted.

But it was not until 45 minutes after the polls closed that any real whooping was recorded and that was to officially herald the victory for Giaimo.

Sill in a rather matter -of - fact fashion, no general victory party was scheduled. Town Chairman Arthur T. Barbieri said there were "too many candidate this time, and it was an off year (for a city election) and each winner was scheduled to hold his own celebration."

Interest In Cook

The most attention, comment and excitement at the three - way headquarters (Democratic, Giaimo's, and the 1st Ward) appeared to center around Independent congressional candidate Robert M. Cook.

Barbieri and Giaimo were on hand early before the polls closed. Mayor Richard C. Lee arrived at 6:35 to take returns. National Committeeman John M. Golden arrived about two minutes before 7 o'clock.

The three -room set -up was busy and buzzing with activity, telephones, newsmen and party faithful. Then, just at 7, Barbieri raised his hands and asked for silence.

"We'll start receiving calls any minute now," Barbieri said. It was then the veteran campaigner made the first mistake in an uncannily predicted outcome.

"I imagine the 1st Ward will be heard from first — they're right out here . . ." (The 1st Ward was the last of the city's 33 to report.)

The first ward to report in was the 26eth. It was Dempsey and Giaimo by 2-1, with 51 for Cook. The next two wards — the 7th and th — ran about the same, but when Barbieri reached the 22nd, Cook's total of 130 drew a low whistle from the room.

After several announcements of votes in the 90's for Cook, the the first loud cheer from the throng came when the 25th Ward came in with only 31 for the sociology professor.

The First Winner

Reporters waited and small outbursts of applause and cheers went up ward after ward. Then a state representative was elected. Robert Oliver, Democratic alderman in the 1st Ward, was announced as a winner. "That's one," shouted Barbieri.

He was to say "that's another" over and over in the next 30 minutes, and finally, both state senators were assured victories.

Barbieri and Giaimo were now sweating freely. The room had become jammed with several hundred persons and Barbieri asked for a policeman to clear the crowd. 'We've still got towns reporting," he shouted.

It was about quarter of eight when Barbieri hoisted Giaimo to the top of a table. Here Barbieri introduced the winner by saying: "Here's the man who beat Cook."

Giaimo said: "I want you to meet by dear friend, outside and inside of politics, the greatest town chairman in the United States . . ." and Barbieri joined Giaimo on the table.

I am grateful to the people of New Haven," Giaimo said, "especially for this smashing plurality. We are waiting to hear from other towns, but I think that this is a most crucial election because it is a federal one, important to all the capitals of the world.

'Support For President'

"They are all watching what the United States is doing tonight, and it shows overwhelming support for the President — this vote very clearly means that the people are behind what the governor, what the President, and what the Congress of the United States is doing, and I mean specifically in Viet Nam."

'As for my opponents, I have no recriminations. Stelio (Salmona) is my friend. . . I do not know the third party opponent except that I ran against him."

(At this point, someone shouted: "Short order Cook)."

A campaign associate of Giaimo's said he felt Giaimo "might hold a party in a Westville restaurant. But it depends, because he hasn't been feeling too well lately; I think he had a virus.'

Someone mentioned later they thought Barbieri and Giaimo were scheduled to leave on a plane trip west sometime tomorrow.

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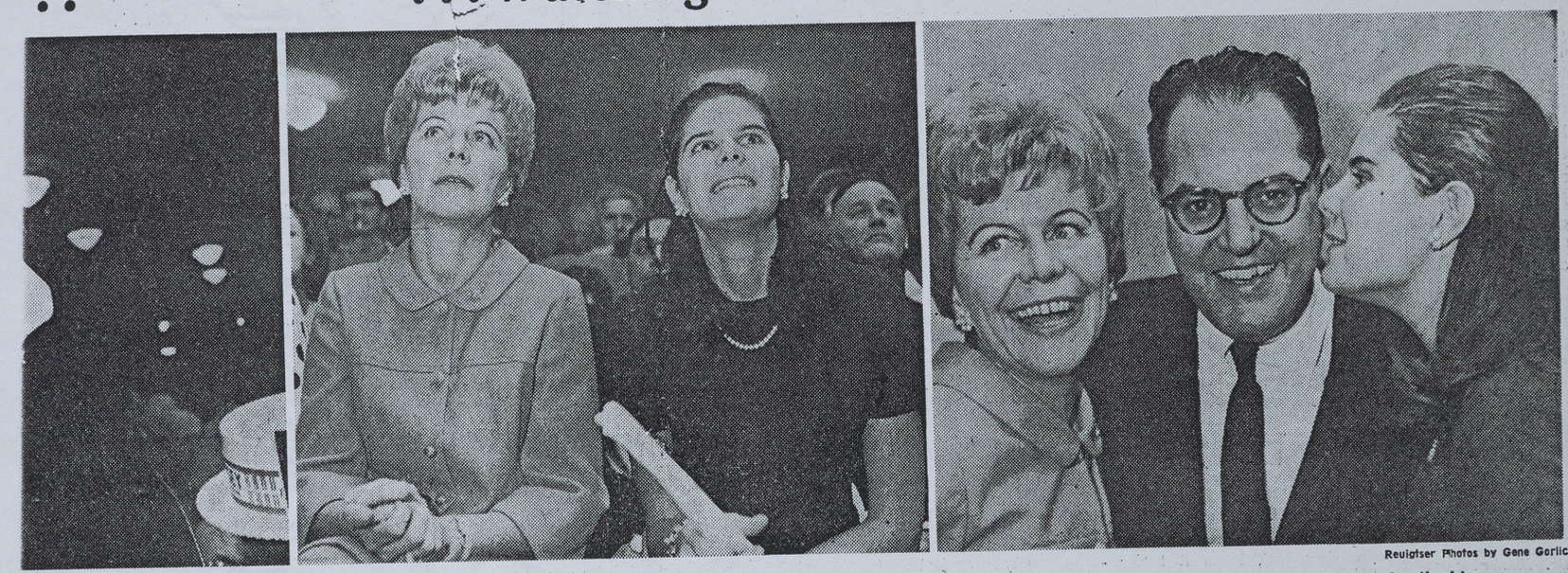

Register Photos by Gene Gerlick

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Arrangements were made for several New Haven and Bridgeport radio stations to hook up inside a fence arrangement at the headquarters.

Placed outside the fence was the Yale radio station. The student manning the facility complained to one of the party workers, "How an I going to get any tapes out here?"

"I don't know," the worker said, "but that's where you're to be stationed."

* * *

Another man who managed to get a seat inside the fenced off area was questioned about his sitting there and he commented, "I've run on tickets, too, and I have a right to be here."

* * *

Richard S. Eaton, Republican candidate for state representative in the 104th District against Oliver, struggled through the crowd to congratulate the winner.

* * *

Within an hour, all the winning candidates began filtering into the headquarters proudly waving their pluralities. More than one sided up to Barbieri and whispered a "thank you."

Albert R. Webber, who defeated Joseph Einhorn in the 113th District, said: "This has been a rough, dirty campaign, and it proves the people will not go along with mud -slinging."

State Sen. Edward L. Marcus spoke briefly, and by 8:30, the rooms had thinned out and were almost as quiet as they wre 90 minutes earlier. But the results were now history.

F.J.W.